

A PREMIUM ON CRIME.

NOTWITHSTANDING the daily occurrence of burglaries and robberies, many people thoughtlessly persist in keeping money about their homes or persons. By so doing a premium is placed on crime, money is frequently lost and life endangered. Why not open a deposit account, let the money remain in vaults designed for such purpose, and pay your bills with checks? This company will allow you interest on the funds while on deposit.

Colonial Trust Co.

Broadway and Locust St.

CITIZENS BATTLE WITH BANK ROBBERS

Engage in Running Fight With Desperadoes Who Blow Vault and Safes.

ESCAPE WITH THEIR BOOTY.

Townpeople Aroused by Explosion of Second Burglary, but Are Compelled to Retreat in Face of Hail of Bullets.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL. Sedalia, Mo., April 10.—A fierce battle between bank robbers and citizens took place at 2 o'clock this morning at Smithton, eight miles east of here. The fusillade of bullets and buckshot went wild, however, and so far as can be learned, none of the participants on either side was wounded.

The burglars, supposed to be three in number, first blew open the vault of the Smithton Bank with nitroglycerin, and then made an ineffectual effort to blow open the safe.

When this failed they turned their attention to twenty private deposit boxes belonging to the patrons of the bank. They emptied the contents of the boxes on the vault floor and carried off a large number of valuables, including about \$250 worth of postage stamps belonging to the Smithton Post Office, a large quantity of valuable jewelry and one or more sacks of silver coins belonging to the bank.

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PREPARATIONS MADE FOR SOLDIERS' MEALS

Large Temporary Kitchen Will Be Installed at the World's Fair Site.

TO SERVE 4,000 MEN AN HOUR.

Eighty-Gallon Boilers Needed for Soup and Coffee—Range Is Forty-Five Feet Long.

The arrangements for supplying food to the 15,000 regulars and National Guardsmen who will come to St. Louis during the dedication period are completed. A contract has been signed by Director of Works Isaac H. Taylor which calls for the temporary installation of a full cooking plant in the court of the Education building, where the regulars will be housed.

A large shed will be built to be used as a kitchen. Lieutenant Colonel Abel L. Smith, who is in charge of the Army Subsistence Department in St. Louis, will have charge of the operation of the plant.

The plant is to be ready at 10 a. m., April 28, and is to be removed within five days after the expiration of the rental period. The shed will be built on the same site as that of the New York Post Office, which sold all promotions for a stated sum, and then regularly collected a percentage of the increased pay through a collector who was well known and was paid for his trouble by commissions on the amounts he received.

The balance in New York, it is said, was turned over to the men at the head of the scheme, who had sufficient influence to make the promotions.

Postmaster Van Cott of the New York office is declared to be innocent of any knowledge of the manner in which his office was being used to further the designs of grafters, but it is charged that high officials in Washington and New York must have been involved in order to make the scheme effective.

A division superintendent of the New York Post Office is specifically mentioned as being active in the scheme, and the man who was able to advance the men who were willing to pay the price.

Inspectors have been examining nearly 2,000 promotions which were made in the New York office March 29 under the annual requirement ordered by the division of salaries and allowances of the Post-Office Department, and said they have come to the conclusion that most of the men were not made for merit, but because the recipients were able to influence certain other people.

Other post offices besides that of New York are said to have been active in the same ring with Washington headquarters, which has been so active in New York.

Snapp judgment is not to be taken by the department upon any of the questions under investigation, but will receive a most thorough treatment, and not until then will the decisions be known. When Postmaster General Payne returns from outside, results, as far as reached, will be laid before him.

It is the intention then to notify those against whom charges have been preferred to appear, and to give them a chance to be heard, but it is not to be limited as to time, though it is the desire of the department to push the matter as speedily as possible.

It is said at the department that there is to be no formal announcement of the outcome. Those who are placed under suspension are finally sustained will be given an opportunity voluntarily to retire. They will be dropped from the rolls and their positions filled in some quiet, but effective manner.

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WERE POST-OFFICE PLACES FOR SALE?

Inspectors Investigating Charge That Mercenary Ring Controlled New York.

PROMOTIONS COST MONEY.

Asserted That Men Who Purchased Positions Were Regularly Assessed by a Collector—Postmaster Declared to Be Innocent in the Matter.

Washington, April 10.—Post-Office inspectors are busy investigating charges that a ring has existed in the department for the sale of promotions and transfers in the department generally, but especially in the New York Post Office.

The charges are written and signed by a name which may or may not be fictitious. Since the first letter with the charges was received there have been several others substantiating it, but whether these letters are from independent sources is not known.

According to the charges, the ring in the New York Post Office was thoroughly organized and did business on the same basis as that of the New York Police ring, which sold all promotions for a stated sum, and then regularly collected a percentage of the increased pay through a collector who was well known and was paid for his trouble by commissions on the amounts he received.

The balance in New York, it is said, was turned over to the men at the head of the scheme, who had sufficient influence to make the promotions.

Postmaster Van Cott of the New York office is declared to be innocent of any knowledge of the manner in which his office was being used to further the designs of grafters, but it is charged that high officials in Washington and New York must have been involved in order to make the scheme effective.

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\$10,000 TO BE GIVEN AWAY

ONE SINGLE REWARD OF \$5,000

A CONTEST OF GOOD JUDGMENT AND SKILL

THE subscribers of THE REPUBLIC are invited to participate in a profit-sharing contest to continue from this date until 4 p. m. on April 29, 1903. It will be a contest of skill, a test of good judgment, a competition of intelligence. They are invited to estimate the number of admissions to the World's Fair grounds on the occasion of the grand dedicatory ceremonies, April 30, 1903, of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. The Exposition Company will make a record of the admissions on Dedication Day, and the subscriber whose estimate comes nearest to the official record will receive a grand premium of \$5,000 as a reward for the demonstration of skill and acumen. A further sum of \$5,000 will be divided among those whose estimates most nearly approximate the official record of admissions according to the following schedule:

THE REWARDS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

To the one making the nearest correct estimate of the number of admissions to the grounds of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition on April 30, 1903....\$5,000.00

To the Second nearest	\$2,500.00
To the Third nearest	1,000.00
To the Fourth nearest	500.00
To the Fifth nearest	250.00
To the Sixth nearest	200.00
To the Seventh nearest	150.00
To the Eighth nearest	125.00
To the Ninth nearest	100.00
To the Tenth nearest	75.00
To the Eleventh nearest	50.00
To the Twelfth nearest	25.00
To the Thirteenth nearest	15.00
To the Fourteenth nearest	10.00

In all, fourteen premiums, amounting to.....\$10,000.00

THE CONDITIONS

A CASH remittance in payment for an annual subscription to the DAILY and SUNDAY REPUBLIC, or six annual subscriptions to the TWICE-A-WEEK REPUBLIC is the primary qualification required of every contestant. Both the remittance and the estimates must be received on or before 4 p. m. of April 29, 1903. Old subscribers and new subscribers will stand on an equal plane. Any old subscriber who now has a subscription contract can enter the contest by making a cash payment for twelve months. Payment of back dues for which a subscriber is delinquent will count equally with advance payments for future months. All estimates submitted are subject to the following additional conditions:

FIRST. Every cash payment for the Daily and Sunday one year, or for six copies of the Twice-a-Week one year, will entitle the person paying to make six estimates.

SECOND. New subscribers must pay for twelve months at The Republic's regular subscription rates, as follows:

Daily and Sunday one year in St. Louis Carrier District	\$6.00
Daily and Sunday one year outside St. Louis Carrier District	\$7.80
Twice-a-Week Republic one year to six addresses	\$6.00

Contract subscribers must pay for twelve months at their contract rate. In the case of contracts running less than twelve months, they must pay for enough additional months to make a full year, paying for these additional months at 50c a month for St. Louis delivery and 65c a month for delivery outside of St. Louis.

THIRD. Contract subscribers who pay at the contract rate for all months now unpaid under their contract, and at the same time pay for an additional year at the rates specified in the second condition, may make one estimate for each month's payment under their contract and six more for the additional year's subscription.

FOURTH. In case of a tie, that is of the estimates made by two or more persons being exactly alike, the amount of the reward will be divided equally among them.

FIFTH. No estimate will be allowed for a fractional part of a year except to present contract subscribers in connection with a new annual subscription.

SIXTH. All fractions annexed to an estimate will be disregarded and the estimate will be taken to mean the number submitted with the fraction omitted.

FIFTEENTH. Not more than one reward will be paid to any one person. One person may make six or more estimates, but no one person will receive more than one reward.

For the information of those wishing to make estimates it may be stated that the histories of the Columbian Exposition in Chicago disagree as to the number of admissions on the occasion of the dedication ceremonies on October 21, 1892. All admissions were on complimentary invitations, and no count was kept at the gates. Some accounts estimate the attendance at 145,000, but others put it at more than a third larger. Rossiter Johnson, who wrote a history of the Chicago Exposition, under the authority of the Board of Directors, says there were more than 200,000 admissions. There was no night admission at Chicago, but there will be a fireworks show in St. Louis, and both the day admissions and the night admissions will be included in the record of April 30. The admission charge up to 5 p. m. will be 25 cents, and after that hour it will be 50 cents.

ADDRESS ALL ESTIMATES AND COMMUNICATIONS TO

The Republic Profit-Sharing Bureau, Call Box 201, St. Louis, Mo.

BLANK FOR ESTIMATES OF NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

ENCLOSED find.....dollars in payment for 12

month's subscription to the Daily and Sunday Republic; also my six estimates on the recorded admissions to the grounds of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition on the occasion of the dedication of the buildings on April 30, 1903.

I make these estimates subject to the conditions stated in the published announcements.

Signature.....

Address.....

Deliver paper to.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

Estimate.....

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